

Press Release

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Leesburg Arbor Day Tree Giveaway

The City of Leesburg will give away 150 trees next week to celebrate its 16th year as an active member of the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA program.

Eagleston Holly trees and Live Oak trees in one-gallon pots will be available at the Public Works Complex located at 550 S. 14th Street. One tree per person, as well as a planting information sheet, will be provided from Monday Dec. 14 through Thursday Dec. 17. The trees will available 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. while supplies last.

Eagleston Holly trees are an attractive, low-maintenance, and a reliable tree that produce clusters of red berries. These berries are small edible fruit that attracts wildlife. They also brighten the fall and winter seasons. Live Oaks are large, sprawling trees that provide large areas of shade. These trees will grow quite tall, up to 60 feet tall at maturity and a foot spread of up to 100 feet. Eagleston Holly and Live Oak trees are native to Florida and do not require large amounts of water or special care.

As a proud member of Tree City USA, Leesburg is dedicated to urban forestry and helping to promote tree preservation as an important component of our quality of life. The Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA program has grown tremendously from only 42 communities throughout 16 states in 1976 to currently more than 3,400 communities represented in all states. Collectively those communities spend more than \$1 billion annually on urban forestry management.

Leesburg is a progressive city of more than 21,000 residents in northwest Lake County. The city government serves twice as many people with its electric, gas, water, wastewater and fiber-optic public utilities. Leesburg also is a central hub for commerce, attracting 50,000 people to work each weekday. For more information, visit www.leesburgflorida.gov.